

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-5. (Canceled).

6. (Currently Amended) ~~The LCD illuminating device according to claim 2,~~

wherein An LCD illuminating device comprising:

a display panel enclosing liquid crystal layer capable of switching between a diffusing state where light is diffused and a transparent state where light is transmitted, with a plurality of display segments;

a selection unit that selects at least one display segment of the plurality of display segments of said display panel;

a drive circuit that drives a display segment selected by said selection unit into said diffusing state and unselected display segments into said transparent state;

a light source having a light emitting section that generates light for illuminating said display panel; and

a light guide device having at least one light guide member that guides light from said light source to said display panel, wherein:

said light guide member has a reflecting surface formed at least partially in a parabolic shape, a parabolic arc of said reflecting surface extending substantially in a longitudinal direction of an end surface of said display panel with the light reflected from said reflecting surface entering said end surface,

said light emitting section of said light source is located substantially at focal point of the parabolic reflecting surface,

said display panel includes two transparent substrates,

said liquid crystal layer is enclosed between said transparent substrates.

electrodes electrically connecting with said display segments are provided on at least one of said transparent substrates, and

at least two of said light guide member are provided and at least two of said light guide member are located adjacent to end surfaces of said transparent substrates, with a thickness of one of said light guide members being substantially the same as a thickness of one of said transparent substrates and a thickness of the other of said light guide members being substantially the same as the sum of a thicknesses of said two transparent substrates.

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7. (Canceled).

8. (Currently Amended) The LCD illuminating device according to claim 46, wherein:

shaded sections are formed respectively at end surfaces of said display panel where light is not incident.

9. (Currently Amended) An LCD illuminating device comprising:

a photographic optical system;

a roof shaped pentagonal reflecting member; and

an LCD illuminating device that comprises:

a display panel enclosing liquid crystal layer capable of switching between a diffusing state where light is diffused and a transparent state where light is transmitted, with a plurality of display segments;

a selection unit that selects at least one display segment of the plurality of display segments of said display panel;

a drive circuit that drives a display segment selected by said selection unit into said diffusing state and unselected display segments into said transparent state;

a light source having a light emitting section that generates light for illuminating said display panel; and

a light guide device having at least one light guide member that guides light from said light source to said display panel, wherein

said roof shaped pentagonal reflecting member is disposed above said display panel to reflect a subject image having passed through said photographic optical system and formed on said display panel toward an eyepiece, and

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said light guide member is constituted by:

a light guiding section that is arranged along a side surface of said roof shaped pentagonal reflecting member and guides light of said light source in a direction orthogonal to the display surface of said display panel;

an emitting section that emits light to an irradiated part of said display panel; and

a reflecting section that reflects light guided by said light guiding section to said emitting section.

10. (Currently Amended) The LCD illuminating deviceThe camera according to claim 9, wherein:

 said light guide member has side surfaces along the light propagating in said light guiding section, and

 said side surfaces are formed in parabolic shape respectively.

11. (Currently Amended) The LCD illuminating deviceThe camera according to claim 9, wherein:

 dimensions of said light guide member are such that a thickness of said emitting section is substantially the same as a thickness of said display panel.

12. (Currently Amended) The LCD illuminating deviceThe camera according to claim 9, wherein:

said display panel is provided with electrodes at an end portion of said display panel which is substantially parallel to said irradiated part;

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said electrodes are connected via a conducting member with a circuit substrate connecting to said drive circuit so as to control said diffusing state and said transparent state of said display segments; and

a substantial range of emission of light from said emitting section of said light guide member is restricted by said conducting member.

13. (Currently Amended) The LCD illuminating deviceThe camera according to claim 9, wherein:

 said display panel includes a transparent substrate parallel to an optical axis of a lens for optically forming ~~an~~said subject image on said display panel, and

 light emitted from said emitting section of said light guide member is incident onto said irradiated part which is located at an end surface of said transparent substrate.

14. (Currently Amended) The LCD illuminating deviceThe camera according to claim 9, wherein:

 said display panel includes a transparent substrate parallel to an optical axis of a lens for optically forming ~~an~~said subject image on said display panel, and

 said light guide member is located in the vicinity of an end surface of said transparent substrate.

15. (Currently Amended) The LCD illuminating deviceThe camera according to claim 9, wherein:

 shaded sections are formed respectively at end surfaces of said display panel where light is not incident.

16. (Currently Amended) The LCD illuminating deviceThe camera according to claim 10, wherein:

said light emitting section of said light source is located substantially at focal point of the parabolic reflecting surfaces.

17. (Original) The LCD illuminating device according to claim 6 further comprising:

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a polarizing plate inserted between said display panel and one of said light guide members, with a thickness of which is substantially the same as the sum of a thicknesses of said two transparent substrates.

18. (Currently Amended) The LCD illuminating device according to claim 12,
whereinAn LCD illuminating device comprising:

a display panel enclosing liquid crystal layer capable of switching between a diffusing state where light is diffused and a transparent state where light is transmitted, with a plurality of display segments;

a selection unit that selects at least one display segment of the plurality of display segments of said display panel;

a drive circuit that drives a display segment selected by said selection unit into said diffusing state and unselected display segments into said transparent state;

a light source having a light emitting section that generates light for illuminating said display panel, and

a light guide device having at least one light guide member that guides light from said light source to said display panel, wherein

said light guide member is constituted by:

a light guiding section that guides light of said light source in a direction orthogonal to the display surface of said display panel,

an emitting section that emits light to an irradiated part of said display panel,

a reflecting section that reflects light guided by said light guiding section to said emitting section,

said display panel is provided with electrodes at an end portion of said display panel which is substantially parallel to said irradiated part;

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said electrodes are connected via a conducting member with a circuit substrate connecting to said drive circuit so as to control said diffusing state and said transparent state of said display segments;

a substantial range of emission of light from said emitting section of said light guide member is restricted by said conducting member,

 said light guide member is provided adjacent to either end portion of said display panel,

 a thickness of said emitting section of one of said light guide member is substantially the same as a thickness of an end portion of said display panel at which no electrodes are provided, and

 said LCD illuminating device further comprising:

 a polarizing plate inserted between said display panel and said light guide member with the thickness of said emitting section being substantially the same as the thickness of said end portion of said display panel provided with no electrodes.

19. (Currently Amended) The LCD illuminating device according to claim 1-further comprising
An LCD illuminating device comprising:

a display panel enclosing liquid crystal layer capable of switching between a diffusing state where light is diffused and a transparent state where light is transmitted, with a plurality of display segments;

a selection unit that selects at least one display segment of the plurality of display segments of said display panel;

a drive circuit that drives a display segment selected by said selection unit into said diffusing state and unselected display segments into said transparent state;

a light source having a light emitting section that generates light for illuminating said display panel;

a light guide device having at least one light guide member that guides light from said light source to said display panel; and

at least one polarizing plate inserted between said display panel and said light guide member, wherein

said light guide member has a reflecting surface formed at least partially in a parabolic shape, a parabolic arc of said reflecting surface extending substantially in a longitudinal direction of an end surface of said display panel with the light reflected from said reflecting surface entering said end surface,

said light emitting section of said light source is located substantially at focal point of the parabolic reflecting surface.